

Minutes
Regular Town Board Meeting
Town of Paonia, Colorado
January 09, 2024

RECORD OF PROCEEDINGS

Mayor Bachran calls the meeting to order at 6:30 pm

Roll Call

PRESENT

Mayor Mary Bachran
Mayor Pro-Tem Dave Knutson
Trustee Paige Smith
Trustee John Valentine
Trustee Rick Stelter
Trustee Morgan MacInnis
Trustee Kathy Swartz

Approval of Agenda

Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson makes a motion, seconded by Trustee MacInnis, to approve the agenda.

Motion carries unanimously.

Announcements

Town Administrator Wynn announces the first-place winner is 509 Box Elder, second place winner is 225 Clark Avenue.

Candidate Packets are available at the Town Offices, 214 Grand Avenue – Due back to the Clerk January 22.

Public Comment

M. Nierenberger – asks for clarification of time rules and would like longer speaking time. She also discussed the danger of liquor involved with the Kids Pasta Project.

S. Watson – spoke against fee schedule approach, disbursements not being published, and lack of committee reports.

S. Patterson – Spoke of the need to have the curb by Reedy's repaired.

Consent Agenda

Trustee Stelter makes a motion, seconded by Trustee Smith, to approve the consent agenda.

The motion carries.

Voting Yea: Mayor Bachran, Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson, Trustee Valentine, Trustee Stelter, Trustee MacInnis, Trustee Swartz

Voting Nay: Trustee Smith

Staff Reports

Town Administrator Wynn presented the end of year/start of fiscal year report for each department and plans for moving forward. He also goes over the Master Plan schedule, presents RESPEC's report on the water moratorium. He also announces Public Works Director Heiniger has been selected to be the Safe Routes to Parks representative.

Police Chief Laiminger provides an overview of what was accomplished in 2023 using the reports included in the packet.

Actions & Presentations

1. Cedar Hill Project Update and Consideration of Extension - Matt Jennings

Matt Jennings is in attendance to present the update and explain the extension.

Board discussion includes fire mitigation chemicals, transparency, scope of work, labor needs, and current progress.

Public Comment:
None

Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson makes a motion, seconded by Trustee Smith, to extend the Cedar Hill Project.

Motion carries unanimously.

2. Consideration of Request to change Legal Paper of Record Designation to the High-Country Spotlight and Shopper - Tina Walker

T. Walker – discusses proposal sent over and provides overview of legal paper of records.

Public Comment:

S. Watson: questions the frequency of public records publishing and what impact if transitioned from DCI to High Country Shopper.

Board discussion includes pricing and frequency.

Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson makes a motion, seconded by Trustee MacInnis that this item be continued to the next board meeting and have a staff report giving background data, seconded by Trustee MacInnis.

Motion carries unanimously.

3. Letter of Support for North Fork Valley Creative Coalition's (NFVCC) proposal for the OEDIT Community Business Preservation Program.

Town Administrator Wynn provides an overview of how he reviewed the need, process, and the effect it can have to fill empty retail spots.

Public Comment:

C. Patterson – asks if all businesses queried and what were the businesses selected.

A. DeLuca answers advertising and social media outreach questions and explains overview of criteria.

Board discussion includes appreciation for the work NFCC has done funds to benefit businesses chosen.

Trustee Swartz makes a motion, seconded by Trustee Stelter, to approve the Letter of Support for North Fork Valley Creative Coalition's (NFVCC) proposal for the OEDIT Community Business Preservation Program.

Motion carries unanimously.

4. Consideration of Approval of Letter to Forest Service GMUG about the Use of Perfluorinated Compounds in Fire Suppression Chemicals and Foam used in Local Watersheds

Mayor Bachran discusses letter received from Pitkin Mesa Pipeline Company, the chemical concern and the request that the Board also write a letter

Public Comment:

None

Board discussion includes questions about first paragraph, corrections, critical issues, Town's water sheds, best practices, being proactive and audience reach.

Town Administrator Wynn advises of other notifications received and plans to meet with other groups to discuss these issues.

Mayor Bachran will add signature lines for all Trustees to the letter.

Trustee Smith makes a motion, seconded by Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson, to approve a Letter to Forest Service GMUG about the Use of Perfluorinated Compounds in Fire Suppression Chemicals and Foam used in Local Watersheds.

Motion carries unanimously.

5. Board Appointments to Open Seats on Tree Board - 3 seats available as of January 4, 2024

Mayor Bachran announces there are four applicants: Paula Martin, Mark Newland, Christine Patterson, and Karen Fogg.

P. Martin – provides background on experience and desire to continue to serve on Tree Board.

M. Newland – provides background and expresses need to remain on the Tree Board due to the code work to be done.

C. Patterson – speaks to how she can bring more public interaction, input on best tree health. Discusses need for more public participation and tree planting.

K. Fogg – was not present.

Public Comment:

S. Patterson – speaks about the lack of improvement with current Tree Board.

Board Discussion:

After briefly discussing applicants, the Board votes via paper for the open seats on the Tree Board. Town Administrator Wynn tallies the results.

Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson motions for a 5-minute recess, seconded by Trustee Stelter.

Motion carries unanimously.

Board Meeting resumes at 8:05PM.

Town Administrator Wynn announces results from tally for the three open Tree Board seats are: C. Patterson, P. Martin, and M. Newland.

Trustee Valentine makes a motion, seconded by Trustee Stelter, to appoint Christine Patterson, Paula Martin and Mark Newland to the Tree Board.

Motion carries unanimously.

6. Board Appointment to fill open seat on Zoning Board of Adjustment & Appeals

Mayor Bachran announced there were no applications received.

Board discussion on vacancies, requirements from a candidate, meetings frequency, and need to explain what this board does.

No motion is made.

7. Consideration of Approval of Signing an Intergovernmental Agreement with Delta County Clerk and Recorder for the 2024 Municipal Election

Town Administrator Wynn explains county handling of election for 2024.

Public Comment: None

Board Discussion:

There is a brief discussion about election costs.

Trustee Stelter makes a motion, seconded by Trustee MacInnis to approve of signing an Intergovernmental Agreement with Delta County Clerk and Recorder for the 2024 Municipal Election.

Motion carries unanimously.

8. Consideration of Approval of IGA with City of Delta for Building Inspection Services

Town Administrator Wynn provides background and discussions with town attorney and budgeted amounts.

Public Comment: None

Board Discussion:

Board discusses if 10 hours of scheduled time is enough with all the projects coming up. Town Attorney Cotton-Baez explains agreement can be changed after Town Administrator Wynn reviews it.

Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson noted not being comfortable with an automatic renewal after the contracted 2 years.

Town Attorney Cotton-Baez explained that the Town can terminate within 30 days after renewal per the termination clause.

Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson makes a motion, seconded by Trustee Stelter, to approve the intergovernmental agreement between the City of Delta and the Town of Paonia with the following modifications: that the renewal period is for two years, if projected expenses exceeds \$5,000 at any point in the year, that comes back to the board for approval, and that Staff covers any insurance questions.

Motion carries unanimously.

9. Consideration of Approval of RFQ for Hydrogeology Study

Town Administrator Wynn provides an overview of the process of sending out follow-up questions. After reviewing the results he recommends Wright Water Engineers, Inc be contracted for the Hydrogeological Study.

Public Comment:

M. Nierenberger – spoke of lack of confidence in any study done by Town.

Trustee Stelter makes a motion, seconded by Trustee MacInnis, to approve the proposal from Wright Water Engineers, Inc for the Hydrogeological Study.

Motion carries unanimously.

10. Consideration of Approval for Submission of WaterSMART Small Scale Water Efficiency Project Grant to U.S. Bureau of Reclamation

Mayor Bachran advises that the proposal changed slightly, and it will strictly be for redoing the metering at Lee's park.

Public Comment: None

There is a brief Board discussion about procurement of additional meters when needed.

Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson makes a motion, seconded by Trustee Stelter, to approve Submission of WaterSMART Small Scale Water Efficiency Project Grant.

Motion carries unanimously.

11. Consideration of Approval of Resolution 01-2024 Designation of Public Posting Locations

Public Comment: None

Board Discussion:

Trustee Smith and Town Attorney Cotton-Baez discuss need to be clear on where Town will Publish. It was recommended by the Town Attorney to pass the Resolution with the Delta County Independent listed and make changes via subsequent resolution. The web site is the preferred method for posting and satisfies the Open Meeting Law requirement.

Trustee Stelter makes a motion, seconded by Trustee Swartz, for approval of amended Resolution 01-2024 Designation of Public Posting Locations.

Motion carries unanimously.

12. Consideration of Approval of Resolution 02-2024 Designating Town Hall Holiday Closures

Public Comment: none

Board Discussion:

Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson speaks against including “Columbus” on Indigenous People’s Day given treatment of the Indigenous population by Columbus.

Mayor Pro-Tem Knutson makes a motion, seconded by Trustee MacInnis, that we accept the holidays as posted but striking Columbus from the holiday on Monday, October 14.

Motion carries unanimously.

Mayor & Trustee Reports

Mayor Bachran reports that her report did not make it to the packet. Mayor also met with a representative from Senator Bennet's office, discussed applications for grants for sewer funds, and asks the Town to revisit purchase of the school building.

Town Administrator Wynn announces Paonia K-8 awarded \$50,000.00 for academic achievement by Governor Polis

Adjournment

Mayor Bachran adjourns the meeting at: 8:58 PM.


Ruben Santiago, Deputy Clerk




Mary Bachran, Mayor